

Virgilius.

This boke treateth of the lyfe of Virgil,
and of his death, and many other maruay-
les that he did in his lyfe tyme by witche-
crafte and nygromancy, thzough
the deuелles of hell.



Che prologue.

This is reasonable to wyte the marueilous dedes done by Virgil within the cite of Rome, & in other places. Rome hath bene at al times of gret worship in their time. But Romulus & Emperour of Rome, he slewe his own brother through hate & envye. Not withstanding Remus had gyuen ouer to Remulus the cite of Rome, and all the lande thereto belonyng. But Remus caried with hym all the treasure into Champanion, and there he vpon a ryuer called Tellen he founded a merueylous strong towne, wyth great rycheffe, hye walles and stronge, that were well payred within and withoute, and wyth sayre ymages caried out of stone, and al they filthy of the towne couayed vnder the earth, into the ryuer of Tellen that ranne therby, And this town was in that tyme, one of the fairest that was.
at that tyme, and he called it
Remus after his own
propre name.

(.)

Howe Romulus came wythin the sayre towne of Rernes that he destroyed, and how he slew his brother Remus that was lord of Rernes.

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As romul⁹ herde sai of his brother remus
x of y^e towne of raynes, than was he very
heauy, for y^e walles of raynes was soo hye
ghe, that a man y^e stode in the ditch might
not shote ouer wel wth a handbowe. And y^e

And

walles

walles of rome was so lowe, þ a man myghte well lepe
ouer, & with no diche. It fortunēd that Remus wēre
to see his brother Romulus at rome; & he toke wth hym
many folke after his estate & by the, and lefte his wife
abidinge in the towne of Raynes, in Chāpanion with
a litle childe or yōg son named Remus after his owne
name. And whan he was come before rome, & sawe the
walles he sayd thre tymes that the walles were lowe,
More ouer he sayde wyth a leuer he woulde lepe ouer
thm. And by & by he toke a leuer & lepte cleue ouer.
And whā his brother Romul⁹ had herd this howe hys
brother had lepte ouer, he sayd that he had donē yll, and
therfore he should lose his heade therfore. And as Re
mus dyd enter into Romul⁹ palyce. Than he tooke re
mus, & he with his owne hādes smote of his brothers
head, & slew him. And it was not longe tyme after that
he rayled a great army of people throughe al his coun
tre, & he prepared him towarde the towne of Raynes
in Champanyon, & he began to set his ordynaunce to
ward the walles of the towne, and he did destroye they
palyce, towres, castels & other places to the earthe, in
so muche that he left but a few standinge or none but
he could not fynde þ wyfe of Remus his sister, for she
was fled away out of the town, vnder the earthe, at a
falle porte to her frindes ād kinnsfolke, for she was one
of þ greatest borne women that was thā ther aboute.
And as Romulus had destroyed the lande and towne of
Raynes he departed & went home towarde the cite of
Rome wth al his hoast where he was receyued ryche ly

¶ Now the son of Remus, that also was named Rem⁹
after his father, did sle his vncle Romulus, and after
warde

warde was made emperoure & so reigned Emperour.



Than was the wife of Remus very sad & mour-
ned very sore whan she knewe of þe death of her
husbande, and also of the destruction of the towne of
Raynes destroyed by þe handes of her brother, she cau-
sed þe workemen shuld make þe walles again after her,
brothers departing fro it. In so much that she made þe
towne of Raynes more stronger, ad sayre than it was
euer before, and rentwed it richely after her myght and
power. for she was not of so great myght, as she was
whan

whan her husgande was on lyue. And also this noble lady noursished the chyld well, and within a litle space he began to were bygge, and strong ynough to bere armure, Thā said his mother to him. Wy dere sone whā wil you wreke your fathers death. And he answered to his mother, & sayd: within these three daies. And forth with he caused his kinsfolke to raise their people. And whan thei were gathered, he departed & went toward Rome with a great power. And whan he was come to Rome, he made a cry that no man should do romaines harme. Than he passed to þe palyce of the Emperour. And whan þe Emperour sawe þe he was come, he asked counsaile, And þe senatours answered, that ther was no remedy but death, because you slew h^{er} father, so he shall de you. And with that Remus came into the palyce of his vncle Romulus, no person him w^{it}standing. And whā he came to þe presence of his vncle, he was enflammed with ire, & cōtinently he drew his sword, and toke his vncle by þe heer & smote of his head. And whā it was done, he asked the lordes & senatours of Rome, if they wold therfore warre. And thei answered to him & said nay. And cōtinently they gaue to him the hole Emprye, & crowned him as ryght aye. And whan he was Emperour, he sente for his mother, & she came to him. And than rome was made with strong walles & diches, and than rome had a greater name, and there haunted many dryuers nacions, and they did buylde & edifie many fayre dwelling places in rome. This remus was a strong man of body, ryche of good, wyse in counsaile, and he had vnder him many landes & lordshippes. This remus had a knyghte on his mothers behalfe, that was right hardy and holde in battayle, & he toke

he toke a wife in the cite of Rome, that was on of the
greatest senatours doughters of Rome, and hyghesse
of lynage, And Rom^e reigned not long after, but died
And his sonne was made Emperoure, & reigned after
hym. And this knyght of Campaniō, that had married
the Senatours doughter, he made great warre with
him, & he did him very much harme. This knyght had
one sone by his wyfe, that with great traauyling and
labour was borne. And had to name Virgilius (of vi-
gilo, and in his langage Virgil) for because that he
was a great space of tyme watched so with men.

¶ How Virgil was set to scole.



AS Virgil was borne, than the town of Rome
quaked and trembled, and in his youth he was
very wise. Than he was put to scole. And shortly after
his father died. thā h^e mother of Virgil wold no more
marry. And after his deathe, her kinsfolke wold haue
put her from her heritage, with one goodly castell, &
sayest and strongest, in all that towne or there aboute
that

that might be ymagined or made by any man. And she
complayned to the emperoure, that was nyce of kinne
vnto her husbände. But the emperour was an angri
man and wouldenot here her complayntes. Also he
was not beloued of the lordes nor of the comō people
And shortly after he diseased. And than his sonne and
heire Jherlydus was emperoure, after þ death of his
father, & he ruled of his owne mynde al the lande. And
he had al the Romang vnder him, in so muche þ he ru
led them so straightely, that þ wer sore adradde of him
And Virgil was at scole at Colēten, where he studied
right diligently, for he was of great vnderstandyng.
On a tyme the scolars had licence to goe to play, & to
sport thē in the fieldes after the vsance of the old time.
Also as Virgil was walkyng on a hylles syde, a lytle
from the scolars. It fortunēd him to spy a great hole
in the syde of the hyl, into the whiche he entred, and he
went so far that he sawe no lyght, & yet he wēt forther
therin. & he went so farre, that he came where that he
sawe a lytle lyght, & than he went forth streyght. And
withyn a litle while after, he heard a voyce that called
Virgil, Virgil, And he loked aboute, but he coulde see
no persone. Than Virgyll spake, & he asked, who cal
leth me. Than herde he the voyce agayne, but he sawe
no body. Than sayed the voyce. Virgill se you not the
lytle bourde lyng beforē you marked with that wor
de: yres I see the bourd very well. The voyce saide to
hym. Doe awaye that bourde, and let me out thereat.
Than answered Virgil to the voyce that was vnder þ
lytle bourde, & he said. Who art thou that callest me so.
Than answered the voyce. I am a deuēl coniuēd out
of the body of a certeyn a man, & banished here tyll the
daye

day of iudgement. Wherby I be deliuered by þe handes
of men. Now Virgil I praye the to deliuer me out of
this payne, and I shall the we bryte the many booke of
nigromancy, and how thou shalt come by it rightly, &
to know the practyse therein, that no man in the science
of nigromancy shall passe the. And more ouer I shall
shewe & enforme the, so that þe shalt haue all thy desyre.
He think this a greter proffer, for so lytle labour. For
with this gyfte you maye make ryche all poore poore
friendes and your enemies vnmighty. Throough that
great promise. Virgil was tempted, & he had the sende
shewe the booke to him, that he might haue ad occupy
thent at his will. And so the sende shewed him. And thā
Virgil toke away the boorde, and there was a lytle
hole, and therat w:ang the deuill out lyke a wyre and
whan he was out he rode before Virgil like a mighty
man: where of Virgil was affrayde and he meruayled
greatly þe so great a man might come out of so lytle a
hole. Than sayd Virgil. Shoulde ye wel passe through
the hole that you came out of, and he sayd yes, I hold
the best pledge that I haue, þe ye con not do it. The de
uill sayd I consent thereto. And than the deuill w:ang
himself into the lytle hole agayne. And whan he was
in, than Virgil closed him there agayne, so that he had
no power to come out agayne, but there abyedeth stil.
Than called the dyuill to Virgil dredefully and sayd
what haue ye done: Virgil answered abyde there tyl
to your day appointed. And so Virgil became very ch
nyng in the practyse of the blacke science. It was so
that the mother of Virgil waxed very old, in so much
that she had lost her hearpyng. Than she called to her
one of her seruantes, and sayed to hym. ye muste to

Tollenten, and tell virgill my sone that he come and
redresse his inheritaunce, for he shoulde by ryghte be
one of the grettelle of Rom. So the messenger depte
& went to Tollenten where virgil was. And when he
was there, he founde virgil teachinge the grettellor
des of the lande. For his cunninge dyd excell all other
mens, & specially in y arte of nygromancy. This mes
senger saluted virgil, and he tolde his message to him.
And when the messenger had sayde, Virgill was sorry
not for the goodes, but for his mother: Thā he rewar
ded the messenger, And he sent to his mother foure so
mers W siluer, W a mulke white palfre, & a colli lewels.



Thā y messenger
depte. And Vir
gill abyrdeth still
in Tollent yma
ginnunge howe he
may conuaye hys
goodes to Rom, &
he maye folowe
So he made hym
redy, and so depar
ted froe Tollent
& diuers of his sco
lars W hym, whā
he cam to rom to
his mother, he sa
luted her & she hi
& glad she was to
se him for she saw
him not i twelue
yeres before.

How Virgill did make his complaynte to the Emperour as he was come to Rome.

How Virgill was come to Rome, he was receyved right worshipfully of his poore kinsefolke and not of the riche. For they withheld his lades out of his handes, for that cause he was not well come to them, but were angrie of his cominge, for they wolde not eate with him. Than Virgil was very angrie with the, & he made riche his poore kinsefolke, the while he withheld nothing fro his mother with landes, beernaise horses, golde, & silver, & great than kes for their kindnes that the shewed to his mother in his absence. After this Virgil did a while a longe tyme with his mother. At that tyme that the emperour had reysed a new custome or tare. Than wente all the lordes to the emperour that helde any lande of him. And Virgil also with his poore kinsefolk and frendes. And whan he came before hym he saluted him, and he shewed to hym how he was exherited of his landes, & tenementes, & those that withheld it, And he desyred that he might haue it agayne. Than answered the Emperoure that he shoulde take therof counsaile. And forthwith he wēt to counsaile with them that loued not virgil, & thei answered to the emperour. We thinke that the land is wel deuided to the th it haue it. For the mai help you at your nede. What nede you to care for the disheretyng of one scolar. Bid him take hede and loke to his scolars, for he hath no right to no lades here about the citi of Rome. And he saide that he must take patience, for the space of foure or fyue yerres, that thei might examine with in thes selfe whether he wer the right aier or not. And

With that answer Virgil was very angry, and he said
that he would be avenged. And when he came home he
sende for all his poore kinsfolke and friends, & he put
them in his houses and dwelling places that he hadde
within Rome. And he prouided the of meate & drinke.
and he bad them make mery tyll July & the come were
rype. And when it was rype: Virgil by agromancy
did call the ayre ouer al his tryfte and corne of his lan-
des that his enemies helde away fro him, and he cal-
led it to be gathered & brought into his houses, that
none of his enemies had none therof. In this maner
of wise Virgil did disceit his enemies, of al & fruits
and corne, in so muche that they had nothing of that,
the whiche did belong to Virgil. And then the ene-
mies of Virgil sawe the tryples so gathered. Then
they assembled a great power, to gooe against Virgil,
and to smite of his head. And when they were assen-
bled, they were so strong, that the Emperour for feare
fled oute of Rome. For they were the best Senatours
that had all the worlde vnder them. And Virgil shuld
haue had & the whiche was his eyght, he shoud haue
been one of the .xii. Senatours, but they had disceitid
hym and his mother. And when Virgil knewe of their
coming, he closed all his landes with the ayre cornde
aboute all his lande, that no persone lyvinge, nor no
creature might come therein to dwel agaynst his wyl-
or pleasure.

How the Emperoure of Rome beleaged Virgil with
a mercurious great company of men of armes. Vir-
gil being in his castell.



AS the enemies of Virgil came to take hym.
 he closed the aire & they had no myght to goe
 forward nor backward but stode still, of the
 which the maruailed. Than spake Virgil you come to
 deserite me, but it shall not be by all you. And I tell
 you playne you shal haue no profite of þ fruit, as lög
 as I lyue. And you may tell þ Emperour, & I will ta
 ry. iiii. oz. v. yerestill he take collyaple. I delyre not to
 plete in þ law, but I shal take my good whare I finde
 it, & tell your Emperour, & I sot not by his war. Than
 Virgil returned, and he made riche his pore kinssolke.
 Than returned the host to þ emperour & complained on
 Virgil, and they tolde to him howe Virgil had sayd.

And whan the emperoure herde this, he was greatly
moued with anger, and saide I shall burne and set on
fyre al his houses, and after that smite of his hed. And
forthwith he caused his lordes and knyghtes that held
lande by hym, that thei shoulde raise all theyr men of
armes that they had vnder them to be redi at his com
maundement. And at the day appoynted whan y^e empe
roure & al his hoste were assembled, thei toke thei way
toward the place of virgil, that was wel walled round
about and closed with the ayre. Whan the Emperour
came before the walles with all his hoste, they myght
not moue forward nor backward. And than byrgyl
wente out of the castell, and by nigromancie he made
a lyght, in suche maner that the could not go forward
nor backward, but stode still. And he made also by
his cumming, that the emperour thought that he was
closed round about with a greatte water, in so much
that they might not come to the castell, nor for to come
fro the castell, but stode still. And thus did byrgyl serue
the emperoure and al his hoste. And than byrgyl came
to the emperour and saide. Lorde emperour you haue
no power with all your strength to doe me harme nor
my landes also. If your grace did me right you shuld
make of me, as one of your greattest lordes and nerest
of your kindred, for I at your neede mai helpe you more
than all your people. Than answered the emperoure
to byrgyl, you beggler, maie I gette you oute vnder
my handes, I shall geue the that that thou haste deser
ued. Than answered byrgyl and saide lorde emperour
I fere you not but thinke you well that I shall come
you well ynough, and that you shall be glad to knowe
me for one of your kinsfolkes, & of your blode, ye wold
disseruice

diuetye me, but you shall not. Then Vyrgyll caused
much meat to be dressed betwene his house and his host
that his emperour and his folke might see it, and how it was
dressed, but they might haue none thereof, but his smoke
or reke. For they of the house were closed with the aire
as though it had bene a great water: And so Vyrgyll
serued the emperour and his folke. And at that time
there was no person that could finde a remedy to help
them. Shortly after as they were in that captiuite by
fore the castell, there came a man that could good skyl
in the science of nigromancie, and he came before his em-
perour, and he sayd that he wold by his practise make
to slepe all the host of Vyrgyll. And so he dyd, in so mo-
che that Vyrgyll him selfe might scant withdraw him
fro slepyng. Than was he sorry and wist not what to do
for the emperours host was deliuered, and the legat
to ascende on the walles of the castell of Virgil, and when
Vyrgyll saw that he looked in his booke of nigromancy
wherin he was profitt. And then he found how to deliuer
his host fro slepe, and continually he made his emperour
with all his host to stand still again that they might not
remoue, nor the mayster of nigromancy, but stood as
they had bene dead, and they that were on the ladders
with one foot by another downe, so stood still and some
stood with one foot on the ladder, and the other on the wal
and so to stande still, tyll that it pleased Vyrgyll. For
the whiche the emperour was sore auailed and angrie
and he asked the mayster if they should stande still in that
maner. And he gaue to hym no answer but he spake
to Vyrgyll and sayde that he wold shew vnto him his
cunnynge. And than Vyrgyll answered, and he badde
hym do his beste for he let not by thee, the emperoure,
no;

nor all that you can do to me. And thus Virgil held
the emperor, and al his hoste closed in this maner w
the ayre, by the space of a daye. And in the night came
Virgil to the emperor, and he said it is a shame for
so noble a prince, thus to stoppe the waye, and to take
on hym suche thynges as he cannot byng to passe.
Than answered the Emperour to virgil, and sayed,
Helpe me out of this daunger, & I shall restore againe
to you all your landes and tenementes, and al thyng
to be at your commaundement. Than answered vir
gil to the Emperour, I shall deliuer you out of this
daunger and peryll, so that you wyl graunt me grace.
Than answered the Emperour. I graunt you grace,
and I knowe you for one of my kynred, and hertfully
I desyre you to remayne and tary with me in courte.
And than virgil auoyded the ayre so closed. And that
done, he receiued the Emperour and all his hoste in to
his castell, where golde siluer, perle, and precious stone
were great plenty. And he serued them with meat and
drynke ryght ryche, well serued in order, and great ha
bundaunce therof, and euery persone after his degre.
And the emperor, his owne person, was ryche and
rygght nobly receyued of virgil in his Castle with
great ioye, songes, instrumentes of all sortes, greates
trumphe, and after serued at his table as a prince, w
all ought for to be serued. And at his departyng virgil
rewarded euery persone after his degre, with rich and
maruailous gistes.

How that the Emperour restored agayne to virgil
al that was his right: as landes, rentes, tenementes,
goodes, with diuers gistes that he gaue to hym.

Than

Thā toke they leue of Virgill & retourned home
 agayne. And whan they were retourned home
 the Emperour gaue to Virgill his lande again & all ſ
 he asked. And after he was the greatest lord of the Em
 perours counsaill. After that it hapened that Virgill
 was enamoured of a fayre lady the fairest in al Rome
 Virgill made a crafte of nigromancy that tolde hir al
 his mynde. And whan the lady knewe his mynde he
 thought in her self to disceyue him, & she saied þ it was
 great daunger so to do. But at the last he consented &
 sayd. If he will come at mydnight to the castell wall.
 He would let downe a basket with strong cordes, and



thereby to draw
 him vp at her wi
 dowe and so to li
 by her and haue
 his pleasure. And
 with this ſwore
 was Virgill very
 glad, and he saied
 he shoulde doo it
 with a good wyll

How the gentyl wōmā pulled vp Virgill, & how she
 let him hang in the basket whā he was halfe way vp to
 her wyndowe, & how ſ people wōdred & mocked hym.

Virgil.

L.i.

aday

A Dai was set that Virgil shuld come to a toure that stooode in the market place of Rome, and in all the town was none so hygh. And at the day appointed Virgil came to the toure, & the gentyl woman was therat waiting. And as she sawe him there stande she let downe the basket at the window. And whan it was downe Virgill went in. And whan he was there in she pulled him vp tyll that he came halfe waye, and there she let him hange and made the corde fast. Then the gentyl womā spake. ye be disceyued and I shall let you hāge styll tyll to morowe, for it is market day, and that al the folke maye wonder on you, and on your dyshonestie that you wold haue done and lien by me. And therewithall she shut her wyndowe, and let him hange tyll the mornyng that it was day, tyl all the menne in Rome wisse it, & also Theemperour that was ashamed and sende for þe gentyl womā, & bed her let hym downe and so she did. And whan he was downe, he was a shamed and sayd, that shortly after he wou'd be auenged on her, and so he went home to his gardaine, that was the fayrest þe fode Win Rome. Then toke he his hokes and by his connyng he put out all the fyre that was in Rome, & none of them without myght bryng in fyre in to the citie. And this dured bi the space of a daye and a nyght. But Virgill had ynough, and no body els had nor myghy not make no fyre within Rome.

How Virgill put out all the fyre of Rome.

The emperour and all his barons ad the comons of Rome meruailed that there was no fyre in al the citie. And than they thought in theyr myndes that
Virgil

Virgil had put it out. Than the Emperour send for Virgil, & praied him of his counsaill that men myght haue fyre agayne. Than must you cause a scafold to be made in the mydle of the marked place, and than y must set the gentyl woman in her smocke & hāged me in þ basket yesterdai. and so he let make a cri throug all the citie of Rome, that who so wyl cōe to the scafold in the market place, and there betwene the legges of the gentyl woman there they shold haue fyre or otherwise none. And know that on to þ other cā giue none no: sel none and thus ye must doo if ye wil haue any fyre. nāhan they herde this they came with great multitude to the scafolde.



Virgil.

L.ii.

in

How the gentyl womā was put vpon þ scafolde and how þ folke of the town wēt and sethed fyre at her arse, & thei light candels be twyxt her thees

The Emperour & all his Lordes sawe that there was no other remedy but þ he must nedes do after Virgil. He caused a scafold to be set

in the market place, and caused the gentil womā to be
 set thereon in her smocke, & there men to set the fyre be-
 twene her legges. The pooze men wth candels, & strawe
 And all the ryche men dyd ligh: & their torches thereat.
 The daies must the gentil woman stande in that mai-
 nere, or els they should haue no fyre. And the third day
 past, the gentyl woman went home soze allhand. And
 she knewe ryght well, that Virgill had done that vyo-
 lence to her. And within a whyle after Virgil maryed
 a wyfe. And after that Virgill made a palyce ryghte
 marueylous with foure corners. And as it was made
 he laid the Emperour therein in one of the corners, and
 he herde all that the men did say in that quarter. And
 in lyke wyse he dyd bringe him into the other.iii.quar-



ters, and so he herd what
 the sayd in y^e other quar-
 ters of Rome. And thus
 goyng by those.iiii.quar-
 ters, he hearde all y^e was
 sayd thorough Rome, and
 the might not speake so
 soft, nor secretely, but he
 herde it.

Howe Virgill made
 saluacio Rome.

The

The emperour asked of Virgil how he might make Rome to prosper, and to haue many landes vnder them, and howe to know what land would ryle agaynst them. And Virgil answered to the Emperour, I shall prouyde a remedy vnder a shorte space. And forthwith he made vpon the Capitoliū which was the towne house, a turrett with costly ymages, all curiously wrought in stone. And he gaue it to name Saluacio Rome. That is to say, the saluacion of Rome, & he made in that conpace all the goddesses we call matremettes, & ydolles that were vnder his subieccio of Rome. And euery had had in his hand a bell. And in the myble of the goddess, he made one god of Rome. And whan there was any lāde that would ryle agaynst Rome. Then the goddesses would turne their backs toward the god of Rome. And the god of the lād would tourne him to Rome & rynge his bell, till the Senatours of Rome dyd here it. And forthwith they go to se what lande it is that will warre agaynst them. And by that sygne, they made theim redi to resist their enemies. The men of Cartago had knowledge of this (saluacio Rome) which they would had bene destroyed. For though Rome had done theim great hurt. And they assembled a prynces counsaile how to destroy that worke. Then they sayd they would send .iii. men out and they to gyue to the .iii. men golde & syluer. And they toke their leues and went toward the cite of Roma. And whan that they were comen to Rome, they sayde they were sothe sayes, or true dreamers. Upon a tyme these three men wente to an hyll that was within the cite, and there they buried a greatte portte of money, very deepe in the earth. And whan they had so done, they hyrred it a

gayne they wente to the byrde of Cyber and they let
fall into a certayne place a great barell of golde. And
whan it was done. These thre mē wēt to þe senatours
of Rome and sayde. Worschipfull lordes we haue this
night dreamed, þe within the fote of an hyll here within
Rome is a great pot with money, wil ye lordes graunte
to vs & we shall do the cosse to seke therafter. And they
lordes consented. And than they toke labourers & del-
ued the monei out of the earth. And whan it was doen
they went another tyme to the lordes and sayed. Wor-
shipfull lordes, we haue also dreamed þe in a certayne
place of Cyber lyeth a barell ful of golde pence, if you
wyl graunte to vs that we shal go sekeit. And the lor-
des of Rome thinking no discepte, graunted to þe so the
saiers, & thei had them do thei best. And than the soth-
sayerz wered glad. And than they hyred sheppes & mē,
and went towarde the place where it was. And whan
they were come, they sought in euery place therabout
and at the last the founde the barell full of golde pence
wherof they were gladdes. And than they gūe to the
lordes cosly giftez. And than to come to thei purpose
they came to the lordes againe and sayd to them. Wor-
shipfull lordes we haue dreamed agayne, that vnder
the fundacion of Capitolum, where (saluacio Rome
stādeth, be. xii. barels ful of golde. If it please you lor-
des that you wil graunt vs lisenche, it shall be to youre
great auantage. Than the lordes sired with courtesie
graunted to the. Becauie two times before they tolde
the truthe, wherof they were riht glad, and they gate
labourers and so began to dygge vnder the fundacion
o (saluacion Rome.) and whan they thoughte þe they
had pyggen ynoughe thei departed fro Rome. And the
next

next day solowynge sell that downe, and all the worke that Virgil had made. And than the lordes knew that they were disceryed, and right soyr they were, that they had not suche fortune, as they had in tymes past.

Howe they Emperoure asked counsaile of Virgil how the nyghte goers, and all yll doers myghte be ryd out of the stretes.

The Emperoure had many complayntes on they nyght goers, theues and murdzers of men in þ nyght. In so muche that the Emperour asked counsaile of Virgil, and he said he had great complayntes on the ues that rynneth by the nyght, for they kyll many men. Virgil I pray you what is best to be doen. Than Virgil answered to the Emperoure. you shal cause a horse of copet to be made, and a copet man vpon his backe, hangyng on his handes a flayle of yron. And that horse ye shal byrnyng before the towne house. And than you must cause a crie to be made, that a man fro the tyme euer after at .x. of the clocke he should ryng a bell. And he that were founde in they strete after that houre, he should be slayne. And whan this crie was made the nyght goers, as the ues, sette not apoynt thereby, but kepte the stretes as they did before, and would not let therefore. And as soone as the bel was ronge at .x. of þ clocke, that the horse of copet with the terrible man of copet prauised through þ stretes of Rome in so much that he left not one strete vnsoughte. And as soone as he founde any man or woman in the streete, he slewe the skarke dead in so much that he slewe .CC. persones or more. And this seyng the theues or the nyght goers they

they thoughte in their minds howe to fynde a remedy therfore. And so they ymagined to make a laddre with a dragge therō. And as they wold go out by nighte they toke their ladders with them. And whā they herde they horse come. Than they caste the dragge on the houses and so they went on the ladders to the toppe of the houses, so that the mā of copet might not touche thē. And by that meanes, they kepte the streates as they dyd before. Than came they forth againe to the Emperour, & complayned. And than the Emperour asked counsaile of Virgill. And Virgill answered to the Emperour. you muste haue two dogges of copper, and set them on ether syde the horse. And than cause a crie to be made, that no man shall departe oute of his house after 5 bel be ronge. But the nyght goers cared not therfore one poynte. But whan they herde the horse comyng, with their ladders they clymed on the houses. And the dogges after and tered them in peeces. And thus the noyse went through Rome, in so muche that no body durste not in the nyght go in the strete. And thus the nyghte goers were destroyed.

How Virgill made a lampe, at all tymes burnyng.

How 5 profite of the comon people, Virgill made a myghty pyller of marble, & he made a brydge 5 raught fro the palyce to the pyller. By the whiche he mighte go fro the palyce to 5 piller: That palyce & pyller stode in the middes of Rome, And he made on 5 piller a lampe 5 burned nyght & day, & no man could put it out. And this lampe gaue light ouer al the citie of Rome, and ther was no place in Rome, but it gaue it light that

that it seemed. ii. torches in euery place thorough Rome
And on the wal of the palatye, he made a man of metal
the whiche helde a bowe of metall in his hand, and he
pointed therewith to shote the lighte out of þe lamp
But the lampe burned still, and it gaue great lighte
through all the cite of Rome and on a tyme it fortu-
ned the burgeys daughter to enter in to the palatye to
take her pastyme. And in sporte she behelde the mā of
metal. And one in her company asked in sport why he
shotte not. And than he went to the man, wher hādē
she touched the bowe. And than the bolte flew out &
brake the lampe that Gyrgyll had made. And greete
meruayle it was þe man made went not out of her mind
for the great fere that he had. And also ocher burgeys
les daughters that wer present wher whan the lāpe
was broken, were nere out of thei wittes. for þe stroke
was so great and ferefull. And than they saw the mā
of metal rime his his waye ryght swiftly, and after
þe he was neuer sene, And this foresayde lāpe was
wring after the deathe of Gyrgyll, by the space of .CC.
Cyres or more.

How Gyrgyll made an orcharde by a certayne for-
ayne, the sayrest and goodlyest, that euer was syn then
the world beganne.

Many were þe maruyles that Gyrgyll dyde, after
the man made of metal, he made a no:chard in
the which he set all maner of trees bearing fruite with
dyuers herbes and many growynge in the sayde or-
charde. And at all tymes men myghte sedaply rype
fruyte saye blossomes, ryghte plante. In thei myde

Gyrgyll.

D.i.

of

of the orcharde was a goodly fontayne, the fayrest & euer was sene. And in this orchard was many kindes of byrdes syngyng. All maner of byrdes might com into þe orcharde, but the cule not go out agayne. For it was clofed in suche maner wth the arpe. Also he had in his orcharde, all maner of tame beestes, & were profitable for men. Also he made of þe water that ran oute of the fontayne, a standing water aboute the tres, & clerest that might be. And therein was of all maner of fyshes & culde be thoughte. Also in this orcharde was all maner of Joyfulness. Both of trees, herbe, foules & bestes, of euery kynd that was possible for man to ymagine or thinke. Also he dide make greater thinges than al this, for he made a haute or seller in þe orcharde, the fayrest that myghte be thought, by mānes reason. In the whiche seller he put all his monie, and treasure, all þe he had. He had so greate pleynte of ryches that he knewe no ende therof. And he set .ii. men of metall before þe doore to kepe it. And in eche hand a great hamer. And there with they smyte vpon an anueld, on after the other. In somoch that the byrdes that flew ouer dyde here it, & for sere the fell downe deed. And o ther wyse Tyrgyll had not his good keppe.

How Tyrgyll made to his wyfe an ymage.

Tyrgyll made an ymage verely in the arpe & myght not fall. And þe peple of Rome myght not open noder window nor doore, but the must needs se it. And this ymage had this properte. No woman after she had sene the ymage shoulde haue no lust so bodily pleasure. And therfore the womē, had greate curi
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The lauden on a time came haffell to his doughter and sayd. My doughter whan he cometh aie, gyue to him this drinke & I gyue to you or & he wyl you but you must not drink therof. For whan he ha the drunken therof he shall slepe. And whan he is slepe let me knowe therof. Thā we shal take him & we slo whens he is. And the lady dyd as she was comaunded, and whan Tyrgyl was comē she gatte him a drinke, as she was comaunded, and whan he had drū he slepte, & so was take. Then was Tyrgyl brought

D.iii.

to

to the lawden and the lordes also the doughter of the
 laiden. And than þ lawden showed his knyghtes that
 he was the man þ had taken his doughter away, and
 than he said to Urygyl. ye be welcomre. for þ pleasure
 þ you haue had, ye shal suffer death. Than answered
 Urygyl to the laiden. I wolde that I had neuer sene
 her. And yf that ye wyll let me go I shal neuer come a
 gaine. Than answered the laiden and þ lordes. That
 shall we not do, but for your mylde dede ye shal suffer
 shamfull dethe. Than answered þ laiden's doughter
 yf ye put hym to dethe. I shall suffer dethe with him.
 Than answered the laiden thereto. I consent. for ye
 shall be burned w hym. Tha answered Urygyl. That
 shall you not do, with all þ strengthe and might that
 ye can do, thought ye be of so greate power.
 How Urygyl came oute & led w hym the sayre lad.
 þ lawden's doughter & how he founde þ town of napels



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